Latest Art, Culture, Food, Tourism News, Views & Announcements

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CULTURAL ONLINE MAGAZINE

INK OCHi

FIRST OF ITS KIND FROM KERALA

53

IN STRIKING BLACK-AND-WHITE

BY SEBASTIÃO SALGADO

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- The Silent Child
- Friend
- Cold Toddy-Whiskey Iced Tea

CULTURAL eMAGAZINE
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Editor's Note

BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHY

There's something especially appealing about great black and white photography. It has a timeless quality to it. A black and white image can be striking, engaging, breathtaking, and definitely moody.

Monochrome photography is any photography that utilises differing amounts of light instead of different colours to capture and represent images. Whereas standard colour photography (known as polychrome) displays colours from across the spectrum, monochrome photography takes only one single colour and uses a range of tones of that colour.

This stands in stark contrast to contemporary colour photography in which the actual colours present in the subject are captured and represented in the photograph.

Because of this distinction, monochrome images are not true renditions of the world, but rather abstractions that represent different colours with different shades of the same colour. Because of this, monochrome photography is most often used for artistic and aesthetic purposes.

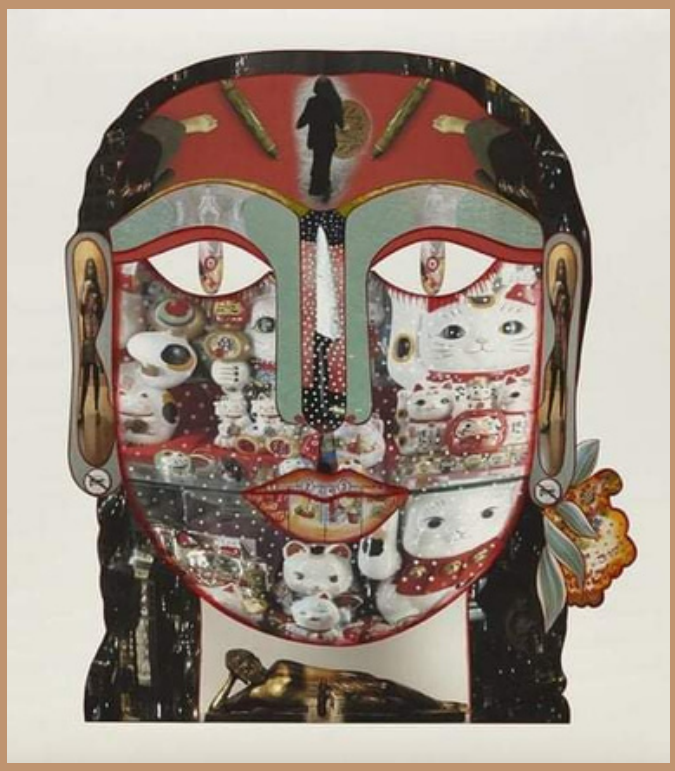
That said, there are many proponents of traditional film-based photography for monochrome. It is also important to note that, beyond monochrome pictures, examples of monochrome also come from other mediums: there are also monochrome paintings, monochrome prints, and monochrome films, like Schindler's List.

Happy Reading...!!
Varghese T. Thomas

On the occasion of 'World Art Day' we expresses our gratitude to some creative genius who enriched the world through their creations.

Rekha Rodwittiya

Born in Bangalore in 1958, Rekha Rodwittiya completed her graduation from The Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S. University, Baroda in 1981. She then received the Inlaks scholarship for her M.A. in Painting from Royal College of Art, London in 1984. In 1988-89 she was invited as guest artist to the Konsthogskolan, Stockholm and was also invited to deliver series of lectures on Indian Art at the Ecole des Beaux Arts Grenoble and Castello de Rivoli, Torino in 1991. >>



Rekha Rodwittiya

She did a short stint at the Fullam Institute on Film and Video, and was conferred the Staff Fellowship from the Rockefeller Foundation Asian Cultural Council to work in the U.S. in 1990.

Rekha Rodwittiya's work describes complex issues of life and living, of alienation and belonging, of discrimination and acceptance, of accord and discord. It is of paramount importance to this sensitive artist to react pragmatically to socio-political attitudes that surround her. Her work reflects her sensitivity towards socio-political attitudes along with the reflections from her past. >>

Rekha Rodwittiya

She does not treat art, and life in isolation and deems it necessary to experience life to paint. Her fervent activity of painting is a struggle for her own rightful existence. The artist explains to say, "I go through all the terror and agony of stepping into an 'unknown'." Her images are a bypro-duct of her thoughts and emotions, her readings, observations, beliefs, values and vast compilation of past experiences.

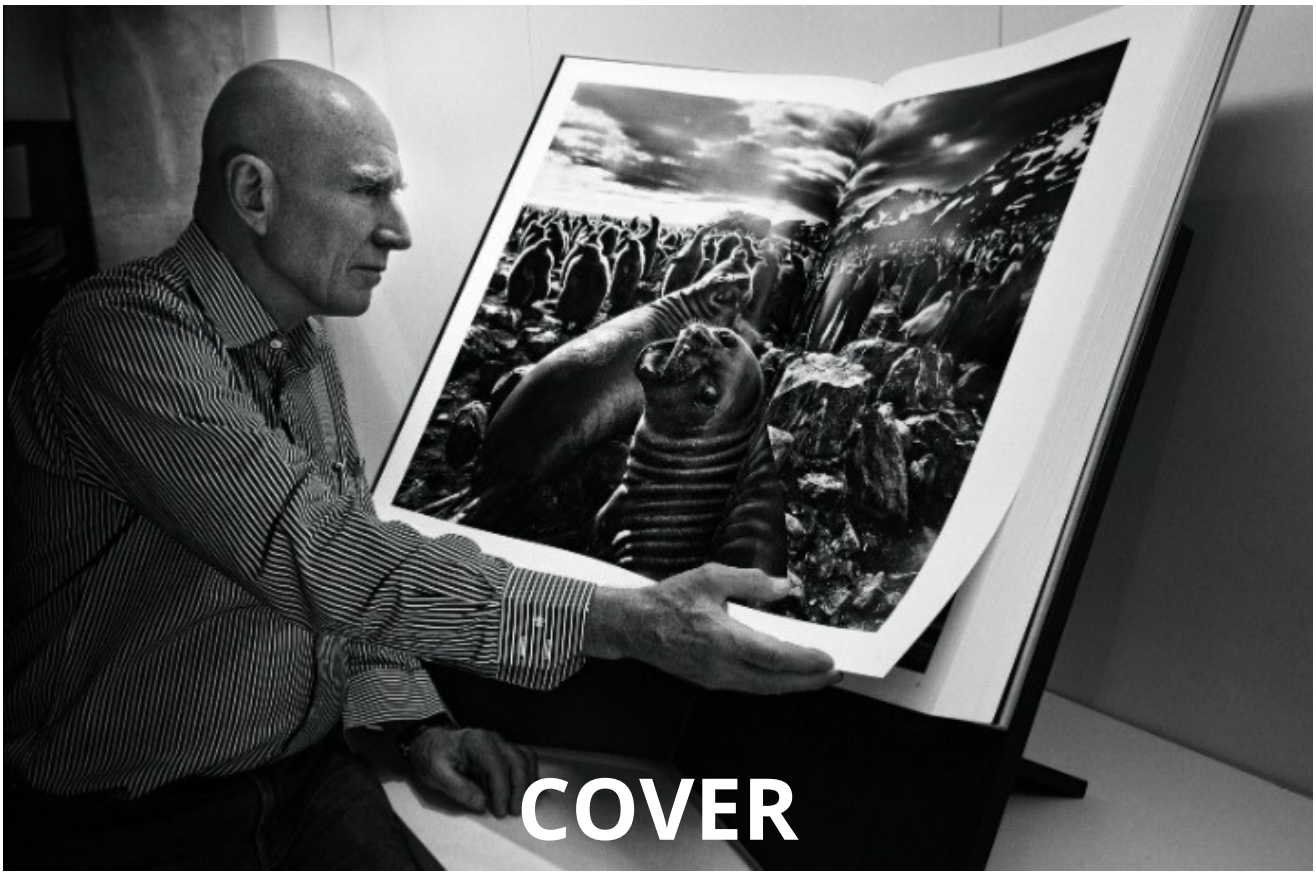
The artist draws on a heritage of elemental imagery, tempered by psychological insights, portraying women through the prism of personal experience and day-to-day realities. >>

Rekha Rodwittiya

As she has noted: "Caught within the intricacies of adult angst where the undercurrent of pain was recognized though not fully understood by me, the drawn or constructed image became very early a means of deciphering all that I accumulated from observing....My sense of empathy with the drawn image was that it offered a physicality, and established a concretizing of the otherwise intangible. It became a method, as I perceive it in retrospect, of creating a dialogue that gave meaning to a psycholo-gical realm."

<>

Source: ArtFamily



A Striking Photojournalist

Sebastião Salgado

Source:
Light & Life Academy

A Brazilian photojournalist and documentary photographer on social issues, Sebastião Salgado was born in 1944 in Minas Gerais. He initially did Master in Economics in Brazil from University of São Paulo. For the International Coffee Organization, he worked as an economist frequently visiting Africa on World Bank missions. This is when he became fascinated with photography. In 1973, he abandoned economics and chose photography as his career. >>

A Striking Photojournalist

Sebastião Salgado

This is when he became fascinated with photography. In 1973, he abandoned economics and chose photography as his career. At first, he worked for news projects before swerving to making documentaries. Salgado worked with Sygma, a photographing agency as well as with Gamma.

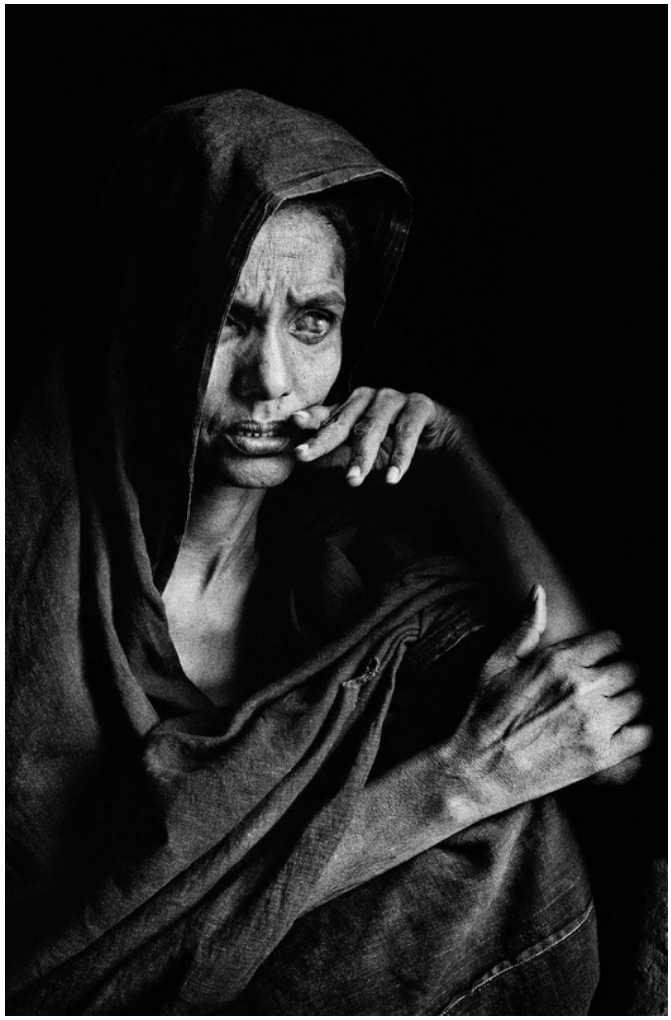
Then in 1979, he started working with Magnum Photos, an international organization of photographers. However, in 1994 he quit from magnum and along with Lélia Wanick (his wife), he opened an agency on his own by the name of Amazonas Images. The family resides in Paris. >>

Sebastião Salgado, born on a cattle farm in Aimorés, Brazil (1944), is one of the most celebrated Photojournalists of our time.

A Striking Photojournalist

Sebastião Salgado

Sebastião Salgado has traveled more than hundred countries for his photographic assignments. Most of these have appeared in the press, in publications as well as in books including Africa, 2007; Migrations and Portraits, 2000; Terra, 1997; Workers, 1993; Sahel: el fin del camino, 1988; Sahel: l'homme en détresse, and Other Americas, 1986. Exhibition of his pieces have been continually displayed around the world. Hal Gould, director or Longtime Gallery considers Salgado as 21st century's most significant photographer. >>



A Striking Photojournalist

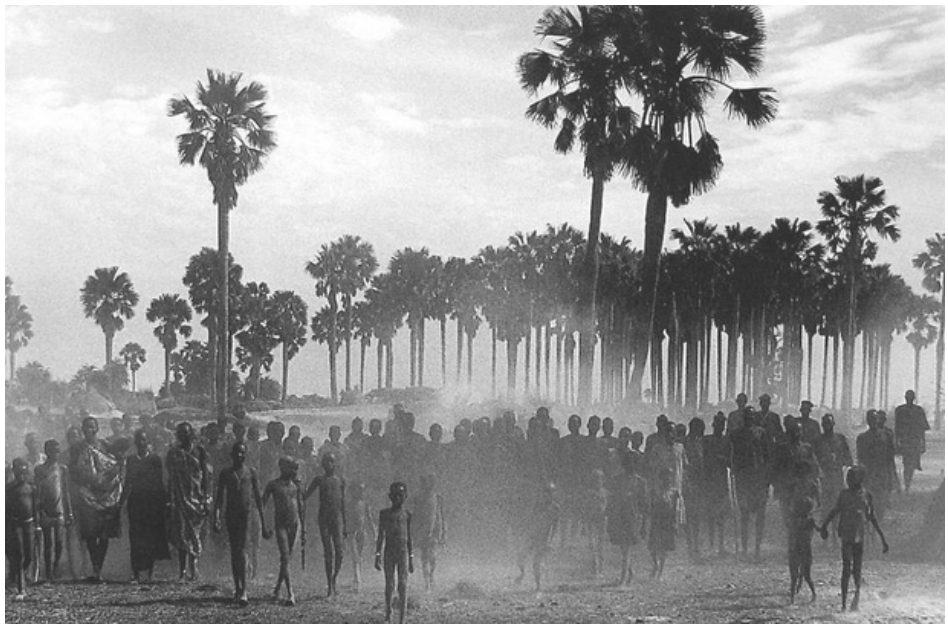
Sebastião Salgado

Since the 1990s, Salgado and his wife have strived to restore a part of the Atlantic Forest in Brazil and in 1998, they finally converted the small piece of land into Instituto Terra – a Private Natural Heritage Reserve.

In appreciation of his contributions and accomplishments to photography, Salgado has received countless awards and prizes. In the United States, at the Academy of Arts and Science, he is an honorary affiliate. >>

A Striking Photojournalist

Sebastião Salgado



In addition, he is the ambassador of UNICEF Goodwill. In 1993, due to his outstanding performance in photography, he received an Honorary Fellowship and the Centenary Medal from the Royal Photographic Society.

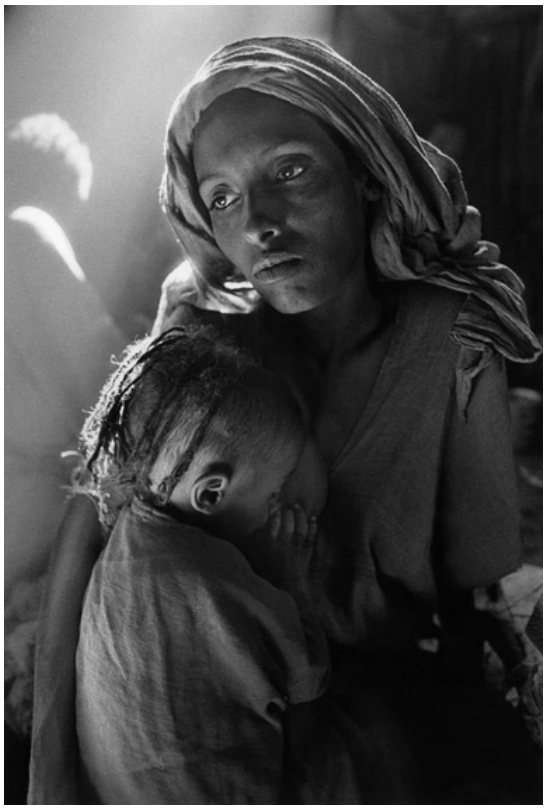
Salgado worked on the immaculate faces of humanity and nature in a project called Genesis, from 2004 until 2011. It includes a series of images of communities of humans who till date follow their traditions and there are pictures of wildlife and landscapes. >>

A Striking Photojournalist

Sebastião Salgado

In 2007, Salgado exhibited his photos from India, Ethopia, Brazil and Gautemala, of coffee workers. His intention was to spread awareness among people about the origin of this worldwide well-liked drink.

His work is mostly comprised of journalistic photography, large-scale projects that take years to finish. On a whole, Salgado's work offers a chance to the viewers to examine the lives of those individuals and communities that they have or will hardly ever meet. >>

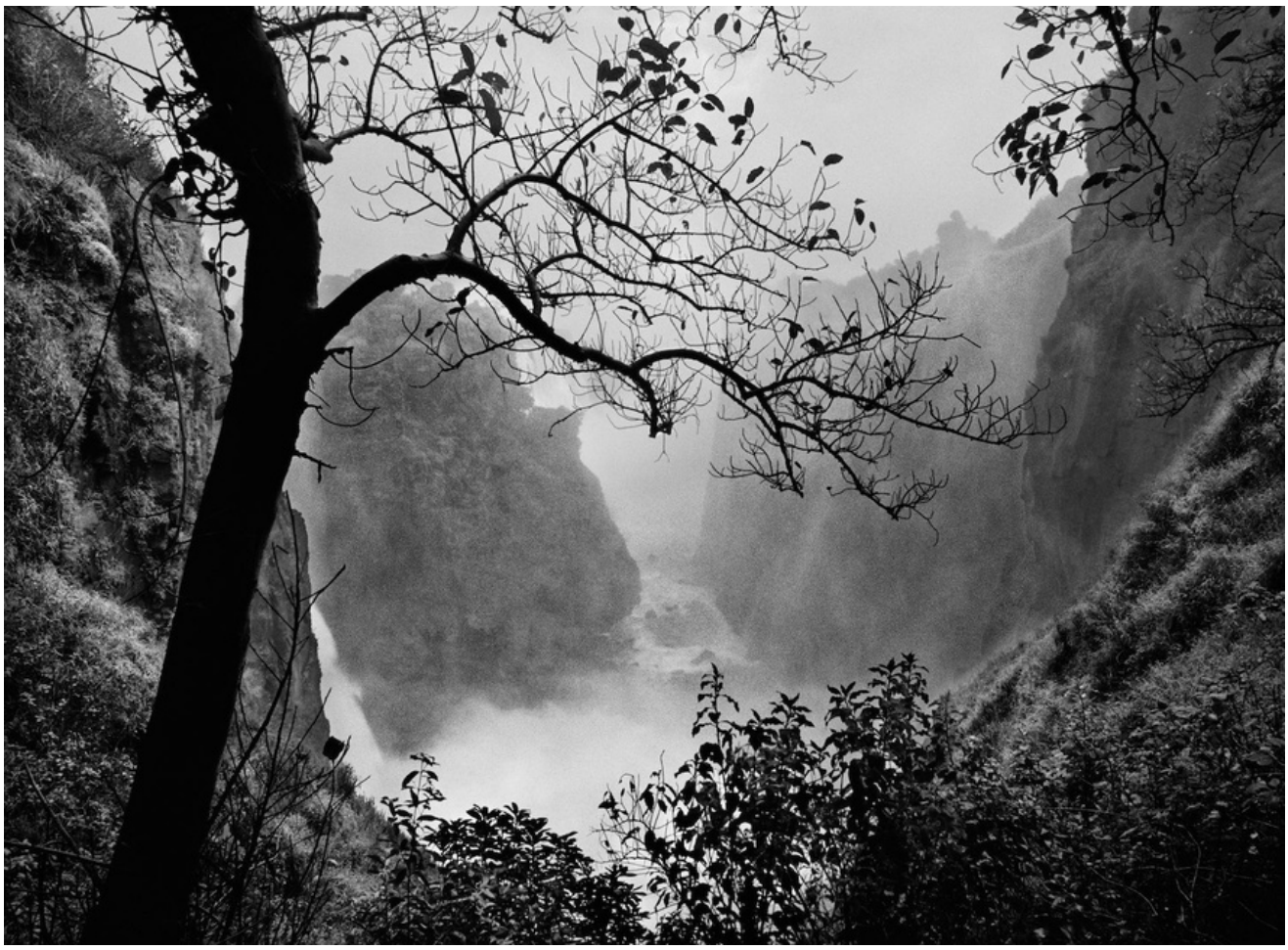


He feels that a picture is not made by a photographer instead the essence of the photo lies in the relationship he has with his subjects of photography.

Although he is known for dramatic landscape photos that he creates, his most notorious works entail people – those from the impecunious countries and cities of the world. In order to study his subjects, he immerses in their life patterns and tries to know them personally as much as he is able to. He even lives with them in order to make them comfortable of his presence while documenting them. >>

A Striking Photojournalist

Sebastião Salgado



A Striking Photojournalist

Sebastião Salgado

Sebastião Salgado has a passion for global issues especially poverty. He realizes that there is a world beyond the comforting zone of Europe and America and while his photographs are touching and striking, they provide a message in fact a warning that this planet Earth is destined for a dark fate if no proper attention and care is given to its environment. >>

Contrast:

The tonality in all of his images is one of the most striking features of his work. Pay attention to the contrast in his photographs. The play of light and shadow is very resemblant of the Chiaroscuro style, a prominent technique, first used in paintings. They tend to evoke a lot of emotions and, rather successfully, layers the scene with drama. >>

A Striking Photojournalist

Sebastião Salgado

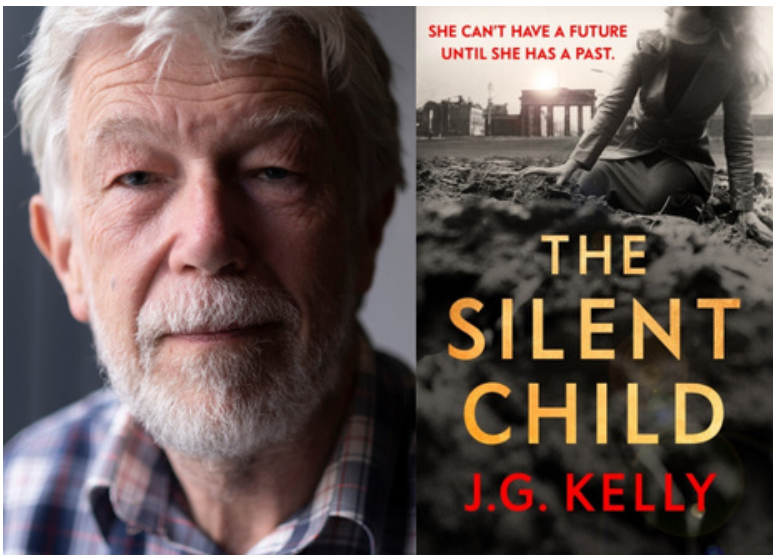
Composition:
Interpreting Salgado's work can largely be down to the viewer, especially with his 'fine art' approach to Photojournalism. But there are certain elements Salgado puts in place in every photograph to essentially guide us to his intended meaning.

Placement of subjects in the frame, the angle of view, the direction of light, even the timing of the shot (Decisive Moment) largely directs the narrative of an image. This is the power of composition!

Timeless:
There is also a sense of timelessness to a lot of his work. From glorious landscapes to the way the stories of people are represented in a photograph, they seem to float outside of time. Like a dramatic collision of the past, present and future… all in one frame. <>

A Striking Photojournalist

Sebastião Salgado



Source: Topping Books, UK.

1944
LEO STERN arrives at the Nazi camp at Borek with his wife Irena and his two daughters. The Sterns are spared from the gas chamber when they witness a murder. But in a place that humanity has deserted, Leo is forced to make unimaginable choices to try to keep his family alive.

1961
For seventeen years, Hanna has been unable to remember her identity and how she was separated from her family at the end of the war, until the discovery of a letter among her late uncle's possessions reveals her real name – HANNA STERN – and leads her to Berlin in search of her lost past.

Helped by former lover Peter, Hanna begins to piece together the shocking final days of Borek. But Hanna isn't the only one with an interest in the camp, and lurking in the shadows is someone who would prefer Hanna's history to remain silent.

Based on in-depth research and beautifully written, this a novel of memory and identity, and the long shadow of war.

Jim Kelly went to university in Sheffield, later training as a journalist and worked on the Bedfordshire Times, Yorkshire Evening Press and the Financial Times. His first book, The Water Clock, was shortlisted for the John Creasey Award and he has since won a CWA Dagger in the Library and the New Angle Prize for Literature.

FRIEND

“My friend!”
We assure one another
“We know each other well”
not quite believing any more
that we do
We have let the years go by
not by accident but a tacit choice
letting the knives of our mutual
perceptions
hang over the edge
in carefully manicured elegance
barely skimming the silken surface
of the water’s all too troubled innards.
Let’s stop here,
we instinctively know
lest we upset Life’s
feather-light boats
packed to the full
with our fragile co-travelers…
We know that we were once capable
of bounding over walls
and plunging in our knives
to the ends of their handles
Without drawing a drop of blood
without a splash
without inviting a second glance. >>

RADHA GOMATY

Radha Gomaty had her initial training at Kerala Kala Peetom with Artist T Kaladharan. She attended the Foundation Program for school leavers at NID, Ahmedabad, and then opted to do her BA in Fine Arts – (Painting) from Faculty of Fine Arts at MS University, Baroda, while involving herself with the Indian Radical Sculptors & Painters Association in her final year there. Radha completed a postgraduate course in History of Art from Viswabharathi University, Santhiniketan, Calcutta and later briefly did research in Aesthetics in preparation for a Ph.D. which she later abandoned.

Radha was a voluntary coordinator of Anmpe Media Trust during which time she scripted and was involved in the post production work of the internationally acclaimed multiple award winning documentary "The 18th Elephant-3 Monologues".

Like expert divers we were sure
that we could enter one another
barely breaking surfaces…
We fear and do not fear,
Like tyhe Russian Dolls,
one in another
We understand and do not understand
one another
We are friends
familiar
like the lines that fold upon one another
in the balled-up palm
of a single hand and yet
We choose to keep between us
a fenceless field
that we never cross
We do not dare disturb the modest
dreams
of the bees
and the wild flowers….
<>

(from 'Through Moonless Nights' by Radha Gomaty. Published by Kendra Sahitya Akademi under the Navodaya scheme for maiden publications by poets aged 40 or below).

Radha, also a poet, works in a range of media, including video, painting, writing, performance & sculpture. In a mix of natural and other material, most of her art is layered and conceptual – mythopoeic in nature & figurative in approach. Her poetry has been published in two collections and she has exhibited her works in solo and group shows throughout India. Two of her works are in the permanent collection of the Museum of Sacred Art in Brussels, Belgium.

Today Radha heads 'SlingIt!', in collaboration with a small rural women's unit that upcycles lovely bags from tailoring waste. She organises Art & Creative Thinking outreach sessions as curator & coordinator of EkaRasa in collaboration with Sparcs Studio.
Her collection of 88 digital drawings were up on show at 'Lokame Tharavadu' curated by Bose Krishnamachari, organised by Kochi Muziris Biennale Foundation.
Currently Radha Gomaty is exploring Acting & Performance and is also actively debuting as an actor in films.

Source: Wine Enthusiast

Cold Toddy Whiskey Iced Tea

BY DYLAN GARRET

Though a traditional hot toddy primarily consists of whiskey, hot water, lemon and honey, the term “toddy” has come to encompass a variety of hot drinks made with booze and a tea or tea-like base. And while tea is a fantastic way to warm up, it also acts as a stellar cocktail ingredient, whether with alcoholic or not.

This “cold toddy” combination follows a simple rubric for a sour cocktail—spirits, lemon/lime and sugar—but also features a tea syrup that’s easy to make and store. The combination will come out akin to a boozy Arnold Palmer, or a simple whiskey sour variation with equal parts tea and lemon flavors.

Any tea will work well in this recipe, though it’s advised to stick to black teas and shy away from more subtle varieties like green, oolong or herbal teas, as their flavor profiles can be overpowered by the liquor and lemon. Lapsang souchong, a tea that’s traditionally smoked over cypress or pinewood fires, imparts more earthy, smoky flavors. Or, classic Earl Grey breakfast tea is a great option that provides enough backbone and tannin to stand out among the other, strongly flavored ingredients. >>

When choosing a whiskey, opt for something with a lighter, smoother flavor profile that won't clash with or be muted by the tea and lemon. As in a traditional hot toddy, most Irish whiskeys will fall under this umbrella, like Jameson, Bushmills or Powers. If you want to dig deeper, Teeling Small Batch Irish Whiskey, The Whistler Calvados Finish and Kilbeggan Single Pot Still each bring notes of apple and fruit that can help liven up the ingredients in this drink.

Not looking for a whiskey drink? Not a problem. The below recipe can easily be tailored to other spirits, and swapping vodka in place of whiskey creates a clean-tasting and refreshing drink that's makes for a particularly tasty brunch companion.

How to Make a Cold Toddy

TIME/SERVINGS

Total Time – 15 min.

Cold Toddy

INGREDIENTS

2 ounces whiskey

1 ounce black tea syrup (recipe below)

1 ounce lemon juice

Lemon twist, for garnish

Whiskey Iced Tea

DIRECTIONS

Combine all ingredients in cocktail shaker filled with ice. Shake vigorously 15–20 seconds, until well chilled. Strain into chilled coupe glass or rocks glass filled with ice. Garnish with lemon twist.

BLACK TEA SIMPLE SYRUP RECIPE

Bring 1 cup water to simmer and remove from heat. Add four bags black tea, or one heaping tablespoon loose-leaf tea, and allow to steep at least 10 minutes. Remove teabags and return to low heat. Add 1 cup sugar and stir until completely dissolved and syrup turns clear. Pour into sealable container and allow to cool. Extra syrup will keep for up to two weeks refrigerated. Makes 1 pint. <>

Laying eggs..
Coromandel Marsh Dart
(Ceriagrion coromandelianum)
Athirappilly, Kerala 27/04/22

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